

REMARKS

Claims 1-13, 15-18, 27-31, and 33-36 are now pending in the application. A misnumbering of claims in the Responsive Amendment mailed on March 4, 2003 (Paper No. 10) resulted in Claim 32 never being presented for consideration.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner refused to enter the amendments to Claim 37. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's refusal to enter these amendments. Specifically, Applicant submits that the amendment to claim 37 does not raise new issues and does not present an issue of new matter. Applicant further submits that the claim is supported by the original disclosure. However, in the interest of concluding prosecution of this application and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.116, Applicant cancels claims 37-40, and expressly reserves the right to prosecute this subject matter in a continuing application. Applicant has also amended the title to reflect the cancellation of apparatus claims from the present application.

Petition For Extension Of Time and Extension Fee

Applicant believes that it unnecessarily paid for a three-month extension fee with the response filed on September 19, 2003 since Amendment filed concurrently was filed within three months of the outstanding Office Action which was mistakenly identified as an Advisory Action by the Patent Office. Subsequent to filing its response, Applicant's counsel was informed of the error by the Examiner who indicated that an extension fee would not be necessary with this response.

Should an extension of time be necessary, Applicant provisionally petition under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for such an extension of time and authorizes the

Commissioner to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 10, 2003


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